



# Bequests to Karmê Chöling

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You can make a legacy gift to Karmê Chöling by transferring cash, securities, or other property through your estate plans. This can be done through your will, trust, or by designating Karmê Chöling as a beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance policy.

## 1. Through Your Will or Trust

Your bequest can be made for a specific amount, for a percentage of your estate or trust estate, or for all or a portion of what is left after you have made bequests to your family. To make a gift from your estate or trust, you must sign a new will or living trust instrument, add a codicil to your present will, or make an amendment to your present trust instrument.

## 2. Through a Retirement Account or Life Insurance Policy

Alternatively, you can designate Karmê Chöling as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. To do so, contact the retirement plan administrator or life insurance company and complete the appropriate beneficiary designation form. You can designate a specific purpose for such a gift with a separate letter prepared with assistance from the Karmê Chöling Development Office.

## Types of Bequests:

### Unrestricted vs. Restricted

Your bequest can either be **unrestricted** or **restricted** to a specific purpose or fund.

- An **unrestricted** bequest allows Karmê Chöling to use your gift where it is needed most at the time it is received. This flexibility is extremely helpful to Karmê Chöling.
- A **restricted** bequest directs your gift to a specific fund or purpose. Karmê Chöling is obligated to use restricted gifts for **only** the purpose stipulated by the donor. If you have a particular interest area at Karmê Chöling, restricting your gift will ensure it will be used to support only what you care most deeply about.

**NOTE:** If you intend to designate your bequest gift, it is advisable to share your intention with the Karmê Chöling Development Office so that we can suggest how best to word the designation to ensure your gift will be carried out to your wishes.

## **Examples of Suggested Wording:**

The following wording is recommended for making a bequest to Karmê Chöling:

I give to Karmê Chöling Shambhala Meditation Center, of Barnet, Vermont, a division of Shambhala USA, a Colorado non-profit religious organization, \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for ["its general charitable purposes"/specific designation].

OR

I give to Karmê Chöling Shambhala Meditation Center, of Barnet, Vermont, a division of Shambhala USA, a Colorado non-profit religious organization, \_\_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_%) of my augmented estate (i.e., my estate to be measured to include all amounts passing from me at death) for ["its general charitable purposes"/specific designation].

OR

Upon the death of the Settlor, the Trustee shall distribute the amounts of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_% of the then remaining trust estate) to Karmê Chöling Shambhala Meditation Center, of Barnet, Vermont, a division of Shambhala USA, a Colorado non-profit religious organization for its general purposes.

## **Additional information:**

### **Karmê Chöling's Endowment Fund**

In 2015, Karmê Chöling established the Karmê Chöling Endowment Fund, administered by the Vermont Community Foundation. An endowment is a fund that holds its principal in perpetuity and only pays out a small portion, typically 4 to 5 percent per year. The Karmê Chöling Endowment Fund is designated solely and exclusively to “support the charitable purposes, programs and operations” of Karmê Chöling. If you would like your bequest to provide support to Karmê Chöling in perpetuity, you may choose to designate this fund in your bequest.

### **For More Information...**

Please direct any questions to:

**Cole Harbur**  
**Annual Fund Director**  
**Karmê Chöling Shambhala Meditation Center**  
**369 Patneau Lane**  
**Barnet, VT 05821**  
**802-633-2384, ext 142**  
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